

Attachment 9

RABIES PROTOCOL

MANAGEMENT OF DOGS & CATS EXPOSED TO OTHER DOMESTIC ANIMALS

(Wolf Hybrids and other exotic pets are considered to be wild animals)

Vaccination Status of Exposing Animal Not Relevant to Recommendations

Exposure Category	Exposed Dog or Cat is Currently Vaccinated	Exposed Dog or Cat is NOT Currently Vaccinated
Category 1 Visible bite or scratch from another domestic animal which has been identified and is available for quarantine	1. Notify local director of health and local animal inspector 2. Biting animal will be placed under strict confinement for 10 days 3. A) If biting animal is healthy at the end of 10 days, victim is not at risk for rabies 3. B) If biting animal begins to exhibit signs compatible with rabies, biting animal should be euthanized and submitted for rabies testing 4. A) If test results are negative, victim is not at risk for rabies 4. B) If test results are positive, 1. Booster victim immediately 2. Notify local director of health and local animal inspector 3. Strict confinement by owner for 45 days	1. Notify local director of health and local animal inspector 2. Biting animal will be placed under strict confinement for 10 days 3. A) If biting animal is healthy at the end of 10 days, victim is not at risk for rabies - Vaccinate victim 3. B) If biting animal begins to exhibit signs compatible with rabies, biting animal should be euthanized and submitted for rabies testing 4. A) If test results are negative, victim is not at risk for rabies, vaccinate victim 4. B) If test results are positive, 1. Notify local director of health and local animal inspector 2. Euthanize, or Isolation for 3 months followed by 3 months strict confinement - vaccinate at 5 months
Category 2 Visible bite or scratch from another domestic animal which has NOT been identified and is NOT available for quarantine	1. Booster victim immediately 2. Notify local director of health and local animal inspector 3. Strict confinement by owner for 45 days	1. Notify local director of health and local animal inspector 2. Strict confinement by owner for 6 months - vaccinate at 5 months

- Any non-domestic animal biting a human needs to be reported to the Department of Public Health
- Protocol for ferrets is similar, but notification must be made to the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife
- Do not vaccinate any dog or cat which is under a 10-day quarantine
- Any animal euthanized while under a 10-day quarantine MUST be submitted for rabies testing
- If most recent rabies vaccination was administered within 30 days, it is not necessary to re-vaccinate

1. Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Division of Epidemiology: (617) 983-6800
2. Massachusetts Department of Food and Agriculture, Bureau of Animal Health: (617) 626-1794
3. Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife: (617) 626-1575

This document was prepared by the Massachusetts Department of Food and Agriculture, Bureau of Animal Health

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